San Francisco Chronicle

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CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

# Most cruise passengers at Travis go untested

Photos by Santiago Mejia / The Chronicle

**People make their way outside the Ferry Building in San Francisco. While all nonessential travel is banned, individuals may go out for exercise, as long as at least 6 feet of social distancing is maintained.**

## Two-thirds of those quarantined declined procedure

EXCLUSIVE

**By Matthias Gafni**

Despite assurances from Vice President Mike Pence that all Grand Princess cruise ship passengers quarantined at Travis Air Force Base would be tested for COVID-19, The Chronicle has learned that two-thirds of them have declined, often at the encouragement of federal health officials.

As of Wednesday, 568 of the 858 passengers screened while confined turned down the test, a federal official familiar with the Travis quarantine and testing told The Chronicle. The low testing numbers align with what passengers were told by officials during a Tuesday afternoon teleconference, citing a 30% acceptance rate for the novel coronavirus test, several passengers told The Chronicle.

"These folks know they are in a 14-day quarantine, if they test positive they are further delayed until they test negative," said the official, who The Chronicle agreed not to name because they were not authorized to speak to the media, in accordance with the paper's ethics policy. "They don't want to stay. They want to be released."

Those who spoke to The Chronicle said feder-

*Travis continues on A8*

# Hunker down at home or walk among others?

## Getting out fine, city says — but social distancing is a must

**By Peter Fimrite and Sarah Ravani**

The near total lockdown of the Bay Area is not particularly airtight, as anyone who has stepped outside for a hike, a jog, a trip to the dog park or grocery store has found out.

There are people out there, sometimes a lot of people. That jarring discovery is being made by quite a few of the people disregarding shelter-in-place orders. That sneaky excursion into what was supposed to be a vacant, abandoned landscape consistently includes other individuals doing the same thing.

There have been reports of elbow-to-elbow joggers on the Embarcadero, clusters of dog walkers chewing the fat in the park and scores of people admiring the view of the bay from

*Lockdown continues on A11*

**There are people out there, sometimes many people. That discovery is being made by quite a few of those ignoring orders.**

# Schools flailing to teach during shutdown crisis

**By Jill Tucker**

On Monday, San Francisco teacher Mark Rosenberg was trying to ramp up remote learning for his third-grade class — creating lesson plans for all subjects, translating assignments into two languages, putting them online and figuring out how to test students to see if they were learning the material.

On Wednesday, all that was put on hold as district officials amended their message to teachers, telling them they couldn't require students to participate in any learning. At least for now.

Teachers were encouraged to give students learning opportunities and to support them academically. That could mean providing reading suggestions, math activities or worksheets to practice math. Specifics at school sites were still

*Schools continues on A10*

### Dow loses all gains since 2017

Stocks tumbled more than 5% on Wednesday, and since Feb. 12 have plummeted 32.7% to its current level of $19,898.92. Even normally "safe" investments like bonds fell. **C1**

### Camping no longer an option

All state-park campgrounds, along with others in the Bay Area — in national and county parks and regional open spaces — have been closed. **D1**

### Life definitely imitates art

Katie M. Flynn celebrated the release of her dystopian novel "The Companions" in S.F. on March 3. Less than a week later, she was self-quarantined at home. **E1**

### Students still get to eat

There are no classes to attend, but locked out students can pick up a meal each weekday morning at any of 14 San Francisco schools. **B1**

### Live updates and more online

- Virus Tracker — follow the cases across the state: **sfchronicle.com/coronavirus-map**
- Live updates: **sfchronicle.com/coronavirus-live-updates**
- Ask The Chronicle: **sfchronicle.com/coronavirus-questions**
- Where to find food: **sfchronicle.com/restaurant-database**
- Visual essay: **sfchronicle.com/coronavirus-photos**
- What residents need to know: **sfchronicle.com/coronavirus-need-to-know**
- Answers to your "shelter-in-place" FAQs: **sfchronicle.com/shutdown-faqs**
- What's open? **sfchronicle.com/shutdown-whatsopen**
- What older people need to know: **sfchronicle.com/shutdown-seniors**
- Where to get tested? **sfchronicle.com/coronavirus-testing**
- Getting around: **sfchronicle.com/shutdown-transit**
- Seeking financial help: **sfchronicle.com/shutdown-finances**

# Once a fringe idea, direct cash payments gain wide support

**By Joe Garofoli**

With the nation facing an economic calamity, an unlikely group of politicians, ranging from President Trump and Sen. Mitt Romney to Sen. Kamala Harris and Rep. Ro Khanna, is lining up behind a measure Stockton put in place a year ago: Giving money directly to people, no questions asked.

The cash payments are likely to be included in a $1 trillion-plus coronavirus stimulus package that Congress will take up in the coming days. How much people would receive, and whether there would be restrictions based on income, is in flux.

What's not in question is bipartisan support for the idea of directly sending cash to Americans, a concept that was

*Payments continues on A7*

- **Aid package:** The president signs, a few hours after Senate passage, a bill that mandates sick leave for any worker who gets COVID-19. **A7**

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